

BLESSED HONORED PIONEER



Pushing, Pulling and Praying, Bound for Zion, by E. Kimball Warren

July 24th is considered a special occasion by members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It commemorates the entry of Brigham Young and the first group of Latter-day Saint pioneers into Utah's Salt Lake Valley on July 24, 1847.

The Faces of Heavenly Father's Children

*Arizona Latter-day Saint Families
Foster Hope as Foster Parents*

By Merry Gordon

It's estimated that more than 400,000 children will pass through America's foster care system this year. That's hundreds of thousands of opportunities—for both foster parents and those who support fostering—to change a child's life.

"As a community, it's important for us to be aware of the children who are in care and to find ways to get involved, even if it is not becoming

a foster parent. Everyone has a role to play," asserts Anika Robinson, of the Gilbert Arizona Gateway Stake.

Robinson would know. She is a foster and adoptive parent to ten children (4 biological, 4 adopted and currently 2 foster children with one open bed) who helped pass legislation known as Jacob's Law, which empowers troubled foster children to get the state help and resources they need. Robinson served



Photo courtesy of Anika Robinson

(l to r) Angela Teachout, Susan Woodruff and Anika Robinson, co-founders of ASA Now.

as the Foster Care Community Liaison at AHCCCS [Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System] and is the President of ASA (Advocacy, Support and Assistance for Families and Kids in Need) Now, a foster care charitable organization.

The plight of foster children is becoming more visible. With the addition of Karli, a new Muppet, there are even foster children on Sesame Street.

The show explains the heart of foster care: "Sometimes, even mommies and daddies need some help taking care of their children. Karli's mommy has been having a hard time, so we are her foster parents, or her for-now-parents. We will keep her safe until her mommy can take care of her again."

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*If you don't like to haggle,
and don't have the time....*

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TESTIMONIALS

We are retired and wanted to get a quality mid sized SUV. Mike got us a very nice Lexus RX350 with reasonable miles on it for thousands less than we could have found it for ourselves. It is beautiful, and we love our car. We also love dealing with someone who does what he says he'll do and delivers what he says he'll deliver. We'll be back Mike.

—John Blood, Scottsdale

This is our second car that we've got from Mike. Both times we have had very positive experiences. It's nice to know that when we drove our vehicle for the first time we were not upside down financially. The staff is very professional, and kind. They are easy to deal with and we felt that they had our best interest in mind both times. We would not have come back a second time if we did not have a good experience the first time!!!

—Doug Anderson, Queen Creek

We have bought two vehicles from Mike already, and know literally a dozen other people who have also bought from him and were happy. He really does deliver what he promises. That's refreshing in the automobile business these days. Save a LOT of money, have a positive experience, and get a great car all at the same time. It really does work.

—Keith & Lora Loomis, Maricopa

We bought a Ford Focus from Mike a while ago and feel that we were treated very fairly. It was a very good value for what we got and we were treated with respect and honorably. I feel comfortable endorsing Mike.

—James Ellis, Surprise

Cars Recently Purchased For Satisfied Customers:

2018 Hyundai Tucson: **21,000 miles, \$14,900**
2017 Dodge Grand Caravan: **47,000 miles, \$13,700**
2017 Hyundai Elantra: **8,000 miles, \$12,900**
2016 Hyundai Sonata: **40,000 miles, \$10,500**
2018 Ford F-250 (Diesel): **14,000 miles, \$41,800**
2017 VW Jetta: **22,000 miles, \$11,600**



Mike and Nancy with all their grandkids!

YOUR PROBLEM SOLVER

Mike Hallemwell doesn't consider himself the middle man for car buyers, but more like the problem solver.

Unsatisfied with the used car buying experience over 20 years ago, Hallemwell developed a business to avoid "marked up dealership" prices, and "no-guarantee" classified ads when looking for a car for not only himself, but for thousands of others!

For the past 20+ years, Mike has successfully been leapfrogging the pricey showrooms by going straight to the same source of the local auto dealers, the weekly "auto dealer only" automobile auctions.

Through his business, MikesAutoShack.com, he is able to offer customers the vehicles they want for THOUSANDS below retail, or Blue Book.

Every week about 3,000 vehicles are auctioned off at the auto dealer only automobile auction. Hundreds of local automobile dealers have been attending these same auctions for dozens of years. This is where they acquire much of their inventory.

Soon after the weekly auction many of these vehicles are in lush dealership showrooms all over the western part of the United States with price tags marked up by sometimes thousands and thousands of dollars more than the winning bid at the auction.

Hallemwell gets the same cars at the auction, but instead of up charging his customers thousands and thousands of dollars, he charges a flat fee of \$1,028.25. (Some luxury vehicles will include a higher fee.)

The process has worked so well that the CEO's of all three former LDS credit unions in the Las Vegas valley, Cumorah Credit Union, Ensign Credit Union and Kolob Credit Union all publicly endorsed Hallemwell's business. They each had done business with Mike personally, as had hundreds of their credit union members.

"I've found that many potential customers are afraid of buying a car from an auction," Hallemwell said. "They think it means the car is trouble, and automatically has problems if it is sold at an auction. What they don't realize is that the auction sells between 2,000 and 3,000 vehicles every week, and is the exact same place all the previously owned car dealers go to and buy their cars to put on their lots, then mark them up thousands of dollars."

Potential customers contact Hallemwell and tell him what make, model, price range and features they are looking for. Mike informs customers of which cars in that week's auction meet their requirements. From the auction he calls to report on the condition of each car, sending as many pictures to the potential customer as they want. He then tells them what that like, kind and quality of vehicle has sold for over the past 30 days. Together Mike and the customer will formulate what a realistic price is they can expect to pay for the vehicle that week.

With over 20 years of experience and THOUSANDS of cars already purchased, Hallemwell knows what a good deal is for his customers.

What makes the deal safer than anything found on Craig's List or in the classified is that he sells many of the vehicles with a FULL FACTORY WARRANTY at no additional cost to the customer. In addition, an extended warranty is offered if desired.

Hallemwell isn't the traditional car salesman, but paying thousands less for a car isn't traditional either!!!

"It's a simple process" Hallemwell said. "All you have to do is go to the web site: 'MikesAutoShack.com' and register. It's free, and fast (less than one minute) You have nothing to lose and potentially thousands of dollars to save on the next purchase of your previously owned automobile. MikesAutoShack.com."

MIKESAUTOSHACK.COM | 702.457.3536

Foster Parenting

Continued from pg. 1

"I love the way *Sesame Street* has explained the concept of foster parents because it emphasizes that it's not Karli's fault that she's in foster care," says Robinson. "My only concern with this description is that reunification is not the reality for the majority of children in foster care. According to the most recent Department of Child Safety Semiannual Report, less than half of children who left DCS care were reunified with their primary caregiver. Of the 13,782 children in foster care in Arizona during that time period, 4,235 have a case plan goal of adoption," she points out.

But for Robinson, these aren't just numbers—they're children. "When we hear that there are over 13,000 kids in foster care in Arizona, we don't visualize a number. We visualize the faces of Heavenly Father's children," Robinson says.

Arizona has some basic requirements for would-be foster parents: they must be at least 21 years old; they can be single, married, divorced or widowed; they must own or rent a home or apartment and be legally present in the country; and they must

pass an FBI background check and fingerprint clearance. The Arizona Department of Child Safety offers online orientation training that provides information about what foster care entails. Applicants can also call a hotline (1-877 KIDS-NEEDU, or 1-877-543-7633) to chat with a professional about fostering.

The orientation starts with a battery of questions that all prospective foster parents should consider before applying:

- Do I have a strong support system?
- Am I a good communicator?
- Do I have a positive outlook, even when facing challenging circumstances?
- Do I have the skills needed to successfully manage the behaviors of challenging children?
- Do I know how to help children heal from their losses? Can I manage my own loss?
- Can I say goodbye?
- Am I a team player?



A loving home helps foster children in transition.

Photo via Pixabay

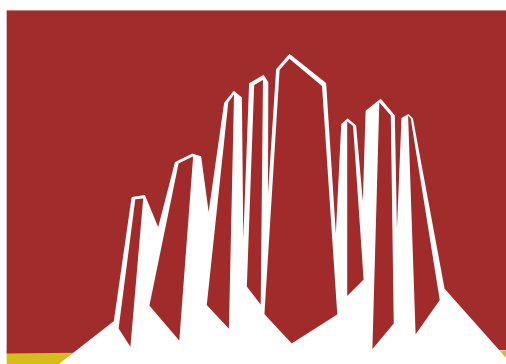
A licensing agency can assist potential foster parents in their journey by walking them through the requisite paperwork and home visits, as well as managing long-term goals.

"Our foster care agency, Arizona Children's Association, knew that our goal was to adopt a child through foster care and they placed children

in our home with cases that looked promising," says Arizona foster parent Rachael Thompson of the Peoria North Stake. Her family was able to foster children whom they eventually adopted.

Of course, fostering is a huge

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WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

"An anniversary is a time to celebrate the joys of today, the memories of yesterday, and the hopes of tomorrow." On July 24th, we celebrate the memories of yesterday's pioneers entering the Wasatch Valley, initiated by Brigham Young exclaiming "This is the right place!" Our July/August issue's cover image reflects the journey to "the right place." In keeping with such a celebratory spirit, we honor two LDS couples who commemorate 70 years of marriage here in our pioneer-established community.

— Michael O'Brien, Publisher



Harold and Arvonna Reynolds

Harold and Arvonna Reynolds celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary on June 15th at a party with family and friends. They were married on May 28, 1949 in Sunnyside Utah. They were later sealed in the Manti Temple.

They have three children H. Clifford Jr, David and Cheryl. They also have ten Grandchildren, twenty-four Great Grandchildren, and seven Great-Great Grandchildren. They have held many church callings during their lifetime including a mission together in the Washington, Spokane Mission.

They now reside in Mesa, Arizona where they have lived for twenty-seven years.

Don and Lillian Dawes celebrated 70 years of marriage on April 22, 2019. They were married in Tillamook, OR in 1949, and are currently enjoying life and good health in their Mesa, AZ home.

The Dawes are the parents of 4 children: daughter Sonja, married to Randy Lee; twin daughters, Sherry Welker, and Shelley married to LaVerl Crosby; son, Curt Dawes, married to Carol Elphick. They have 14 grandchildren and 37 greatgrandchildren.

The missionaries converted their family back in 1962 and all were baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Shelley shares that "It's been the best decision our parents ever made and changed our lives forever!" Congratulations Brother and Sister Dawes. You are an inspiration to all.



Don and Lillian Dawes



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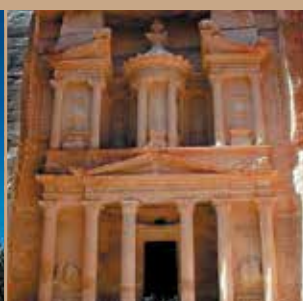
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Foster Parenting Continued from pg. 3

decision. “When considering being a foster parent it is okay to look at your current family and situation and be realistic,” says Monica Peterson of the Brigham City Utah Box Elder Stake, who adopted fostered children. “Know your limits and stick to them and allow yourself the grace to recognize that it is okay!”

If fostering is not an option at present, supporting foster children and their families is still within anyone’s reach through donations of time, money or talent to local organizations. Arizona’s ASA Now is dedicated to helping foster children and the families who support them “by restoring hope and empowering them to better serve these children in



Photo via Pixabay

Many foster children come into homes with unresolved trauma. Organizations like ASA Now and places like Jacob’s Mission Community Center can help.



Interior of Jacob’s Mission Community Center in Mesa.

Photo courtesy of Anika Robinson

need.” Over the past three years they have impacted the lives of over 2,000 families and close to 5,000 children.

Founded by three “true mamas” and Latter-day Saints, Anika Robinson, Susan Woodruff and Angela Teachout, all foster and adoptive parents themselves, the organization offers a range of services and support for foster families and children. ASA Now’s training is OLR [Office of Licensing and Regulation]-approved and presents education that spans from community awareness and speaking engagements to resources for professionals and caregivers. Weekly vlogs and links help families navigate the complex web of the behavioral health world and the DCS—and how to best utilize Jacob’s Law.

Jacob’s Law passed in 2016 thanks to the unyielding efforts of Robinson, Woodruff and Teachout.

“When the three of us set out to

pass the 24 laws now known as Jacob’s Law, we relied on God to open doors for us and He did throughout the whole process. Once we successfully passed the laws, we felt called by God to do more for these children and for the families who open their homes and hearts to them,” says Robinson.

Out of this desire, the idea for Mesa’s new Jacob’s Mission Community Center was born.

“Jacob’s Mission Community Center will be the first of its kind in Arizona,” Robinson says. “Within its walls, education and supports will be provided through a trauma-informed lens.”

Programs offered for foster families will include tutoring, life skills classes, therapy, family programs, respite care, support groups and more.

“We will empower families and caregivers to become strong and effective advocates by providing education

on successfully navigating the foster care, medical and behavioral health systems,” Robinson says.

And ASA Now’s advocacy doesn’t stop when foster children mature: “Our Transition to Adulthood program will help at-risk youth graduate from high school, assist them in furthering their education through secondary education or vocational training, support them in

developing critical life skills and will continue to offer them food, basic necessities and clothing as needed. The services we provide will assist teens in developing skills and competencies necessary for a successful transition to adulthood.”

Special places like Jacob’s Mission Community Center depend on the support of a strong community.

“All services provided by ASA Now are made possible by the support of caring volunteers and donors from within our community,” Robinson says. “The more support we receive from our community, the more lives we are able to impact.”

“Long ago, we heard a quote by Dr. Seuss: ‘Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.’ Which is why we’re here today: to make things better,” Robinson states.

ASA Now is actively looking for volunteers to help with monthly events; it also offers daily opportunities to serve at Jacob’s Mission Community Center in Mesa.

Visit Jacob’s Mission Community Center at 7830 E University Drive in Mesa, or call (623) 428-1592. ASA Now is online at <http://www.asanow.org/>

ITEMS DONATED ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

ASA Now
Advocacy, Support & Assistance
for Children & Families Impacted by Foster Care

VOLUNTEER OR HOST A DRIVE

Helping Children in Foster Care • Volunteer • Donate • Share

VOLUNTEER TO TEACH OR HELP WITH:

- Homework
- Music (Piano, Guitar, Ukulele)
- Reading Music
- Art, Dance, Karate, Yoga
- Classes: Cooking, life-skills, etc.

JACOB'S GIVING CLOSET DRIVE

- New PJ's
- New or all gently used clothes
- New socks and/or underwear
- New or gently used blankets
- Diapers and wipes

BACKPACK DRIVE

- New or gently used backpacks
- Notebooks and folders
- Pencils, pens, markers, crayons
- Pencil sharpener, glue sticks

BASIC NECESSITIES DRIVE

- Toothbrush and Toothpaste
- Deodorant and body wash or soap
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Brush and comb

JACOB'S PANTRY DRIVE

- Cereal
- Breakfast Bars
- Granola Bars
- Instant Oatmeal Packets
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Spaghetti Noodles
- Spaghetti Sauce (cans)
- Ramen
- Mac & Cheese
- Canned Soup
- Canned Vegetables
- Rice in Bags
- Beans in Bags
- Canned Chicken
- Salsa
- Chicken Boullion Cubes
- Apple Sauce (Cups, Squeeze or plastic jar)
- Crackers

BIRTHDAY PARTY DRIVE

- Toys (\$15 - \$20 value)
- Gift Cards for Teens (\$20 each)
- New Blanket
- New Book (all ages)

Photo courtesy of Anika Robinson

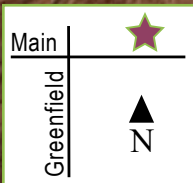
There are many ways to get involved with ASA Now and help children in need.

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An Artist In Our Midst

How One Man's Art Represents a Lifetime of Knowledge

By Karelyn Goins

From the outside, John Horejs's suburban home appears no different than the neighboring houses. It is what happens on the inside that truly inspires.

Horejs, a local West Valley artist, is currently busy preparing 40 pieces for his next show. Just inside the front door, his studio is flooded with a beautiful northern light—"the best for painting," states Horejs—and surrounded by completed works as well as positive messages accompanied by a soundtrack of soft music by a French singer.

Originally from McCall, Idaho, Horejs has trained with fellow artists in various locations to learn techniques over the past 40 plus years. In 1992 Horejs traveled to Arizona for the Scottsdale Artists' School to study with several other artists for a week and decided to relocate. He still divides his time between Sun Valley and Litchfield Park, showcasing works in Sun Valley every year with 7-8 other artists. His landscape works clearly reflect the influence of his diverse surroundings. His art is showcased in 6 galleries all over the country, including Xanadu Gallery in Scottsdale, Arizona, and Gallery 601 in Boise, Idaho.

Working mainly in the medium

of oil on canvas, in more recent years Horejs has been experimenting with gold leaf, acrylic abstracts, and even a few three dimensional oil on canvas

pieces which reside in his studio and around his home.

"I love working with oil because of the richness of the color that you



Horejs in his studio surrounded by his works.

Photo by Karelyn Goins



Photo by Elaine Horejs

John and Elaine Horejs travel to find inspiration for his art.

really can't achieve any other way," says Horejs. Inspiration for his pieces comes from photographs taken during his travels, as well as examining what kind of art complements interiors.

His interest in painting began while he was serving a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Paris, France, an interesting story which he shares in detail in one of his Ask the Artist broadcasts.

After his mission, he was taught by his aunt. He visited her once a week for 6 weeks and she taught him everything she knew. As he wanted to know more, he studied with other artists and took courses. Art has grown into a lifelong pursuit. So it is clear that when people ask how long it takes for him to paint a piece, his answer is "a lifetime."

Every Monday at 1 PM Arizona time, you can catch John Horejs on a Facebook Live broadcast called Ask the Artist, an informal show which began airing in January of this year. The show loosely follows an interview format and has been conducted by his daughter, Adrienne Quintana, in his studio where he answers questions submitted from interested viewers. Horejs challenges viewers, saying, "Send me your questions. I'll discuss any topic and attempt to answer your burning questions. Or if I don't like them, I'll burn your questions!"

You can see his current pieces in the Xanadu Gallery every Thursday during the Scottsdale ArtWalk between 7:00 PM and 9:00 PM when all the SGA galleries are open.

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5 \$25 FOR Summer Fun on a Budget!

By Merry Gordon

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#1 Scottsdale ArtWalk

Every Thursday night in Scottsdale, art galleries open their doors from 7-9 PM for patrons to stroll the downtown area and admire art, much of it local. Take a free trolley or save your money for a horse-drawn carriage or dessert at one of the fine eateries in the area. Often studios have artists on hand and live music to create a fun and festive atmosphere.

Cost: FREE

scottsdalegalleries.com

Around Main St and Scottsdale Rd



Scottsdale artwalk

Photo by Eric Friedebach [CC BY 3.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/>)]

#2 The Payson Summer Concert Series

Cool off in the tall pines of Arizona's rim country, just an hour away, while you listen to local bands at Green Valley Park. Bring snacks and a blanket to bask under the stars as local acts such as Ryan Biter, Outside the Line, and Kilted Spirit offer everything from bluegrass to funk to Celtic for your listening pleasure.

Cost: Just a tank of gas!

paysonrimcountry.com/concert-series

1000 W Country Club Dr, Payson
928-472-5110



Payson Summer Concert Series

Photo by Payson Summer Concert Series



IKEA Food

Photo by Mabel Lu [CC BY 3.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/>)]

#3 Summer in (sort-of) Sweden: IKEA

The no-frills Swedish retail giant may not seem like a destination for summer fun, but the store is huge, air conditioned, and a great place to get some décor concept ideas—especially if you've got a soon-to-be college student at home. Shopping make you hungry? No problem: the food here is inexpensive. Kids eat for \$2.99, and Swedish specialties like meatballs and lingonberry crepes are affordable for the rest of the family.

Cost: FREE; \$2.99 for a kid's meal if you eat, and prices are variable for the rest of the cafeteria-style eatery.

ikea-usa.com

2110 W. IKEA Way, Tempe
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Chandler Museum

Photo by City of Chandler

#4 The Chandler Museum

Reopened at the end of 2018 after a renewal project, the Chandler Museum offers visitors the chance to experience, among other things, the 1938 McCullough-Price house and Tumbleweed Ranch, a 14-acre out-

door environment that puts Chandler's agricultural history into context. Don't miss their current exhibit, Gaman: Enduring Japanese American Internment at Gila River.

Cost: FREE

www.chandleraz.gov/explore/arts-and-culture/museums-and-galleries/chandler-museum

300 S. Chandler Village Drive, Chandler
(480) 782-2717



Slickables

Photo by Slickables.com

#5 Slickables Ice Cream Sandwiches

I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream!—and summer is the best time to make those dairy dreams a reality. Try Slickables, with locations in Tempe and Mesa, for a summery dessert treat. They offer custom-made ice cream sandwiches with cookie and ice cream combos that include snickerdoodle, red velvet, salted caramel and strawberry cheesecake chunk. A party pack of 4 is only \$15 on GrubHub, or you can eat inside their East Valley locations.

Cost: A few dollars per ice cream sandwich.

slickables.com

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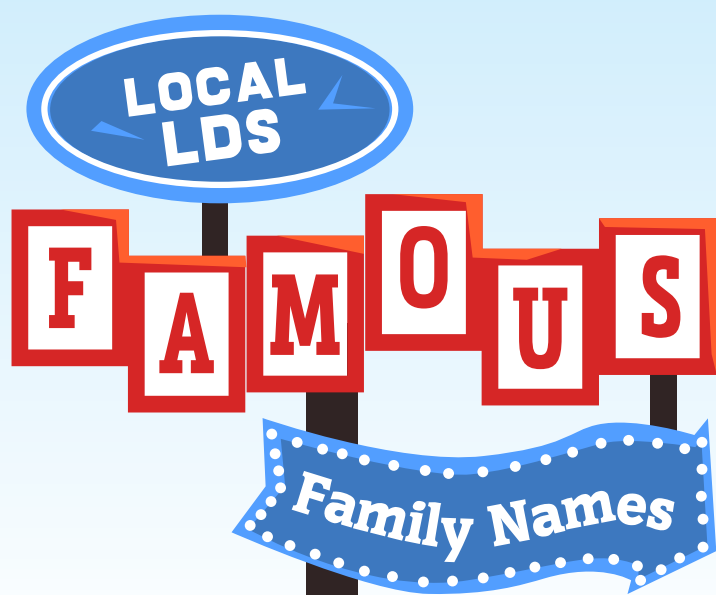


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The East Phoenix Valley is replete with LDS pioneer heritage. The names of pioneer families adorn our streets, buildings and schools.

We often casually pass by a geographic location without considering the history of the family for which the location was named, or why the family name was used. The inquiring minds of Arizona Beehive readers want to know!

In each issue we now present the history of one "famous" Mormon family name. We hope you enjoy learning about these families, and encourage you to reach out to The Arizona Beehive with ideas for families to feature in the series.

By Emily Jex Boyle

Waldensian Heritage

My Roots Gave Me Wings

She died shortly after the dance. Susette Stalé Cardon was 86 years old, after all. She had been chatting about dress styles and dances with granddaughters and nieces near Tucson, Arizona. Her lively steps exemplified her and her family's faith and fortitude.

She left her homeland at age 19. She learned the dance of the grapes as a young girl, perhaps at one of the dances on the hill above her hometown of Angrogna, Italy.

In the 17th century, Milton penned a sonnet in solemn memory of Susette's people, the Waldensians. Centuries later, King Carlo Alberto, issued a constitution prior to Italy's unification, signaling an end to a millennium of persecution for this community of Christians in Cottian Alps of Piemonte, Italy.

Two years later, apostle and missionary Lorenzo Snow experienced a vision of a flood of light when reading

their history. In four years, less than 200 of them would accept the message of the Restoration. For years, dreams and visions prepared hearts. They may have been few, but they were mighty. A third of the 200 traveled to Zion, many walking beside the first handcarts.

Many of Susette's family settled in Arizona. Today, the Pine Arizona Library is named after Susette's granddaughter, Isabelle Cardon Hunt.

Noël Frame (Valley View, Citrus Heights Stake) Susette's great-great-granddaughter, believes every experience we encounter has purpose. This year, she says, "My roots have given me wings."

She had visited Italy several times but never visited the Waldensians' homeland in the Alps. This past year, just before a scheduled trip to France, she met a friend who knew the Waldensian story. Noël says, "She asked if I had looked at a map. My visit to France

could also take me right through the Mont Blanc tunnel into Northern Italy."

She decided it was time to fit it into the itinerary.

With the help of a local guide, Noël walked alpine trails of Angrogna amid chestnut trees, ringing cowbells and the sound of rushing rivers in the gorge below. She visited stone cabins, temples, schools and even dance halls. She felt it. When Noël visited a cave where the Waldensians worshipped and hid their families from oppressors, she explains distinctly, "It was a sacred, holy place."

Her visit sparked a desire to learn more about her ancestors. This year, she's going back for a few months—this time, sharing it with her youngest children, 16-year-old twins.

When asked about her plans she says with a smile and a twinkle in her eye, "Gelato and dark chocolate consumption will certainly be a large part of our immersion. Hey, someone has to



Photo Courtesy of Noël Frame

Susette Stalé first heard the restored gospel of Jesus Christ as a teenager in Northern Italy. She traveled to the Salt Lake Valley, settled and resettled again in settlements in the Cache Valley, Utah, the Mexican Colonies, and Arizona.

take one for the team! We are learning Italian, planning to immerse in the vibrancy and culture."

Maybe, like Susette, they might even learn to dance.



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MESA YOUTH LEARN OF THE BLESSINGS OF FAMILY HISTORY

“I need help finding my family!” was overheard at a recent stake Mutual activity. And by the end of the night: “This was a fun way to teach a little about family history!”

Members of the Aaronic Priesthood/Young Women Stake Committee in the Mesa Clearview Stake decided to make President Nelson’s call to gather Israel a top priority. One of the youth suggested an activity centered on family history.

The goal became threefold: 1) the youth needed to enjoy the activity, 2) the youth needed to get to know each other, and 3) the youth needed exposure to family history and the blessings that accompany this work. These were accomplished through activities and a closing spiritual message.

After dividing one hundred and thirty youth into groups, half stayed in the gym for a *Relative Race*-type activity and the others played Human Guess Who. (*Relative Race* is a BYUtv genealogy-based reality show.) Youth in the gym were each given a clue to the identity of their “family” and then searched to find themselves on one of a dozen giant census records spaced around the room. For some it was their first

exposure to this kind of document.

Once the family was gathered, complete with a parents and children, they were literally tied together with fabric strips and instructed to complete four physical tasks. They had to work as a group, much the same way that *Relative Race* contestants are required to, all while trying to finish first. Tasks included cup stacking, tossing foam discs, Oreo cookie maneuvering, and

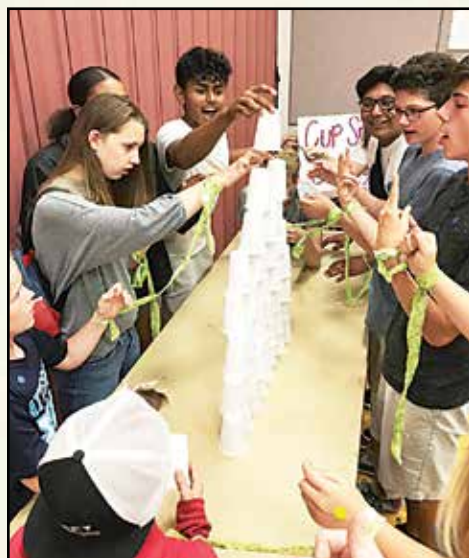


Photo by Annette Muir

Tied together in “families,” Clearview Stake youth work together to complete a task. From left to right: Zach Rapier, Sabrina McClain, Kevin Lee, Calvin Forsgren, Nathan Pearce, and Ethan Larsen.

singing a Primary song in a round.

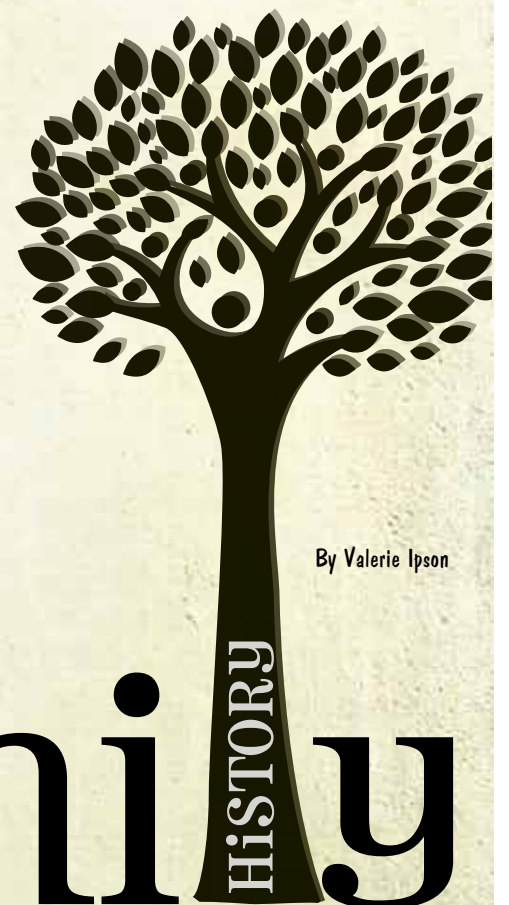
Guess Who was played like the popular children’s game, but in teams. Oversized cards with a picture, a name, a birth date, death date, and other information about actual ancestors of youth leaders formed the basis for game questions.

Amid preparation for the activity, Annette Muir, the stake Young Women’s President, attended RootsTech in Salt Lake City. “[RootsTech] deepened my testimony...[it] taught me in a succinct and powerful way all of the profound spiritual promises attached to this sacred work,” she says. This message was conveyed to the youth through word and video to end the Mutual activity.

Emma Rapier, a Laurel from the Baywood Ward who headed the committee for the event, summed it up this way: “Youth and youth leaders appreciated the fun activities and the spirit that was felt that night. My favorite part was at the end when we showed a video that compiled all of the blessings

that the Lord’s prophets and apostles promised if we do family history work.”

Find more family history activity ideas at <https://www.lds.org/family-history/family-history-activities?lang=eng>



Family

J. SOWARDS TELLS A SELDOM TOLD TALE FROM THE INQUISITION

Shadows of Montsegur, written by J. (Joan) Sowards, is for students of life and history. The tragic story of Andreva de Beringer takes place during the Inquisition.

Sowards says this about her book, “Andreva, responds joyfully to her uncle’s bidding to leave the abbey and come to Southern France to care for her grandmother. The village is terrorized by the Inquisition. The army surrounds the fortress of Montsegur. Andreva’s beliefs are challenged as she witnesses the cruelty of the priests who claim to be acting in God’s name. She must fight



Photo courtesy of Dennis Sowards
Arizona Author J. Sowards

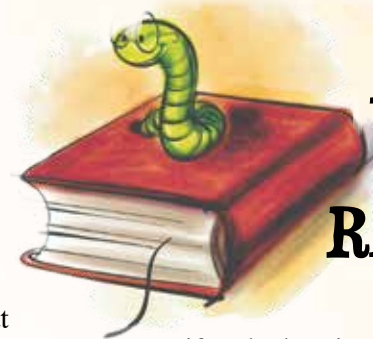
to save the lives of her family and keep the young man she loves.”

A lifelong student of the history of Christianity, Sowards is a seasoned storyteller. She was drawn to the true tale when her college daughter wrote a paper on the Cathar religion and their extermination by the Inquisition. Sowards says, “The people were given an ultimatum to denounce their religion or burn at the stake. Over 200 men and women chose to die for their beliefs.”

Sowards says there are several important lessons to be learned from their story: “Much of history has been forgotten, such as the story

of the Cathars. Let’s not forget they sacrificed for what they believed was true. Those who don’t learn from history are doomed to repeat it. People can respect one another, live peacefully side by side, and still respect the right of each to believe his own way.”

Joyce Horstmann, a reader of *Shadows of Montsegur*, says, “Joan Sowards’ riveting story of Andreva, a dedicated and loyal young woman of faith who must come to terms with the atrocities committed by her beloved Catholic Church during the Inquisition, portrays the power of love in the face of both religious and social



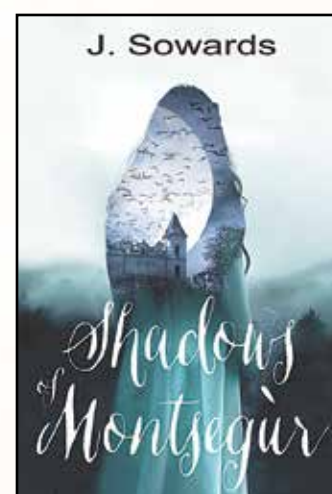
Beehive BOOK REVIEW

By Cindy R. Williams

strife. The heroine proves much stronger than she ever believed she could be as she learns to listen to the Spirit and choose her own fate.”

The author is currently serving a mission at Martin’s Cove in central Wyoming at the Mormon Handcart Historical Site.

Other books written by J. Sowards include *Haunts Haven*, *Chocolate Roses*, *The Star Prophecy*, *Bridges of the Heart*, and *Clairvoyance*. They are available on Kindle and in hard copy on Amazon.



Cover of *Shadows of Montsegur*



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PREP YOUR MISSIONARY

Mission papers sent off? Great! Now what? There are plenty of things you can do to prepare spiritually, physically, emotionally, and financially while waiting for that all-important call packet. Check in with us for tips, tricks, and useful resources for preparing missionaries and their families.

Life Skills Summer Checklist

By Allison Beckert

Missionaries' duties and tools have changed drastically in the last few years, and the social expectations of 18- and 19-year-olds have dropped just as dramatically. With school out, take advantage of this time to ensure your prospective missionary won't find 'adulthood' as mysterious a set of skills as their peers. While they are no longer asked to go several months at a time without calls home, success-

ful missionaries still take care of their own budget, meals, cleanliness, and time management. Here are a few ideas to start or polish off their education to make this load easier to bear.

Have your missionary plan and cook the family's meals for a week. This can be personalized to include shopping, budgeting, or even adjusted to just dinners or lunches depending on the needs of your family. Emphasize what your missionary needs to have confidence in their ability and include applicable recipes for where they will serve, if they have already received their call.

During their time off from classes, encourage your missionary to log and report their use of time. If your missionary has already received their call, there is plenty to do to prepare for reporting. Use their goals and deadlines

to help them make and keep to their intentions. If your missionary is only just submitting their papers, help them identify habits and patterns in how they spend their free time that might be a struggle to stop all at once when the mission begins.

Most missionaries are responsible for their own laundry, and this is an essential skill for independent life. Have them assist with the family's laundry, or even take over their own. As said before, adjust this as needed. If this is too impractical for your family, lessons on caring for mission clothes will be helpful. Help them know how to sew a button back on, remove common stains, and how some fabrics should and should not be cleaned.

As seminary courses (and some institute programs) will have stopped

for the summer, see what your stake offers by way of mission preparation or temple preparation courses. If these are available, they're wonderful resources to build testimonies and help with expectations around these major spiritual milestones. If these are not available, increased attendance to second hour Sunday classes, optional ward study groups, and more frequent temple service can help as well.

A missionary studies and teaches the gospel. As your missionary prepares, give them every opportunity to develop skills in this area. With the resources in Come Follow Me and other Church-produced material, preparing missionaries can prepare and teach lessons for Family Home Evening, Sunday School, or Young Men/Young Women.

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Parker Bradshaw Twists Parker's Pretzels Into an Entrepreneurial Success

By Katherine Ogden

The first thing you notice as you walk into the Whole Grain Natural Bread Company is the wonderful smell—a mix of wheat, chocolate, and a little cinnamon. As you turn to the right, you can see the latest addition to the menu choices inside the bakery: Parker's Pretzels.

One of the newest young enterprisers in the East Valley is Brother Parker Bradshaw, whose creation, Parker's Pretzels, is keeping the community well fed. Parker Bradshaw, of the East Kimball Stake's Aspen Ward, was born with Down syndrome, but he has never let anything stand in his way.

He started playing the cello in the 4th grade when he was 10 years old. He played in the Mesa High School orchestra for 4 years, and has most recently been playing in the MCC Community Orchestra concerts.

While in high school, he swam on the school swim team. During his senior year, he served as the public relations representative, leading the Pledge of Allegiance each morning and making occasional school announcements. He was also crowned prom king, and earned his Eagle Scout award.

"From the time he was tiny, we have treated him

just like all our other children. We knew he'd be able to learn to do just about anything, it has just taken a little longer," says his mother, Kay Bradshaw. "He has excelled in school, swimming, playing the cello, and more! It has been a joy to watch him accomplish so many great things!"

His two older sisters, Kelli and Emma, had both previously worked at the bakery, and he was able to get hired on there as well. While serving a part-time Church-Service Mission at the Bishops Storehouse in Mesa, he continued working part-time at the bakery two days a week.

Recently, bakery owner Ron Anderson approached Parker and his parents and asked what they thought about coming up with something that Parker could do on his own, his own unique product. They realized they didn't want it to compete with the already existing items for sale and came up with the idea of making soft pretzels.

Parker does everything from rolling them to shaping them, putting on the toppings and bagging them. They started out with the original plain soft pretzel flavor, and have added pizza, jalapeno cheese and recently, a cinnamon sugar variety as well. Parker only



Photo courtesy of Kay Bradshaw

Ron Anderson and employee Parker Bradshaw making pretzels.

makes them on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, however, so you need to get there as early as you can. If you wait until Saturday afternoon, you will be out of luck! Parker's Pretzels started selling in April and a giveaway contest was the kickoff, which just happened to fall on National Pretzel Day, April 26th.

"Parker always brings enthusiasm and a smile to work," says his employer, Ron Anderson. "His eagerness to not only help but do the job really well is inspiring."

The Whole Grain Natural Bread Company is located at 1244 S Val Vista Drive, Mesa.

COOKING with the BEEHIVE

By Merry Gordon

Pioneer Day celebrations are upon us! Ever wonder what pioneer children ate as they "walked and walked and walked"? Bacon, beans—and johnnycakes!

Lack of provisions or kitchens forced early Saints to get creative with their resources. The basics that could be hauled overland for hundreds of miles were hardly the stuff of Michelin starred restaurants: "Two hundred pounds of flour, thirty pounds of pilot bread, seventy-five pounds of bacon, ten pound of rice, five pounds of coffee, two pounds of tea, twenty-five pounds of sugar, half a bushel of dried beans, one, bushel of dried fruit, two pound of saleratus [baking soda], ten pounds of salt, half a bushel of corn

meal; and it is well to have half a bushel of corn, parched and ground; a small keg of vinegar should also be taken," recommends one popular Oregon Trail guide.

A staple of the American diet since native inhabitants introduced it to the colonists, johnnycakes (sometimes called hoecakes in the South) are a cornmeal flatbread similar to a pancake or tortilla. Johnnycakes were apparently a favorite of Brigham Young, who said in his *Journal of Discourses*, "[G]ive me a piece of johnny-cake; I would rather have it than their pies and tarts and sweetmeats. Let me have something that will sustain nature and leave my stomach and whole system clear to receive the Spirit of the Lord and be free from headache and pains of every kind."

Simple Johnnycakes

Ingredients:

- 1 cup corn meal
- ¾ tsp salt
- ½ tsp sugar
- ½ cup milk or buttermilk
- 1 cup water
- Oil, shortening or bacon drippings

Directions:

1. Bring water to a boil.
2. Combine dry ingredients then stir into boiling water. Remove from heat.
3. Add milk slowly to avoid a runny batter and continue stirring until smooth.
4. Grease frying pan with oil, shortening or bacon drippings.
5. Once pan is sizzling hot, either spread batter like you would a pancake to cover pan or drop batter by the spoonful.
6. Brown on both sides, flattening to about a quarter inch thick.
7. Serve with syrup, butter or honey.



Verne Equinox via Wikimedia Commons
A pioneer style covered wagon.



Youth reenactment of a cart trek.

Photo Courtesy of Hana Olsen



Douglas Perkins via Wikimedia Commons
Johnnycakes in a cast iron fry pan.

All Ages, All Faiths, ONE VOICE

*Local Choir Participants Go the Distance
for the Love of Music & Their Fellow Men*

By Emily Jex Boyle

Her sister, Emily, mentioned she was going to audition for a choir. Christi Alder (Aspen Ward, White Mountain Stake) thought it sounded like fun and decided she would too. Nine years later, Christi, her sister, and 23 immediate members of the Wilcken family of Mesa continue to sing with the 4,000 choral participants and 500 orchestra participants of the Millennial Choirs and Orchestra (MCO). Other friends and family also participate at the other four MCO locales in California, Idaho, Texas and Utah.

This July, MCO travels to New York to perform in the world-renowned Carnegie Hall. This will be the organization's fifth tour.

Considering the years they have participated, Christi's father, John C. Wilcken (Mesa 46th Ward, Mesa East Stake), says, "We have been able to watch the organization grow." Looking

back, John confides, "I feel blessed to participate with many of my children and grandchildren, by far the greatest and most challenging choral experience of my life."

According to John, the professors and directors of the organization are "some of the finest and most creative in our world today." He feels indebted to fellow participants, dedicated directors, and uncalculated volunteer hours.

Each Christmas and Easter season, MCO's concerts offer audiences a spectacular feast of rich, dynamic sound and story. It is not unusual for multiple pieces in a concert to end with a standing ovation.

Youth in the choir feel they belong to something unique and incredible. Susanna Boyle (Valley View, Citrus Heights Stake) says, "There's an indescribable feeling when the youth first come out onto the balconies during a song. It's not a boastful feeling. It's a



Photo by Christi Alder

Christi and some of her sisters pictured here at a recent concert. From left to right: Emily Welchman, Aubrie Cortez, Christi Alder, Melissa Tyler and Breanna Taylor.

sense of celestial power and God's divine love." Her sister Lucile describes MCO as life-changing.

When Christi and her husband, Ryan, moved their family to the White Mountains seven years ago for work, their family was determined to support Christi's desire to continue singing with the choir. She still makes the six-hour round trip drive to the Valley each week to participate.

Why does she travel so far to sing?

She describes a moment in their recent concert where she watched a woman on the front row in the audience weep, shoulders shaking with sobs as they sang "I Stand All Amazed."

Why does she do it?

Bono once said, "Music can change the world because it can change

people."

Singing in MCO, Christi joins her voice with a host of others to "testify of the love of God and Christ through music." She says it "reaches parts of my soul untouched in any other way, and gives me the sacred opportunity to give the gift of that deep knowledge to others. Singing songs of God and faith brings peace, comfort, and joy to the soul. It brings peace to an aching heart, heals, and testifies of truth. The principles and truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ will reach deeper, mean more, and last longer when taught through music than any other way. Good music heals, lifts, and inspires goodness."

For more information visit their website: www.millennial.org

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By
Heather
Kidder

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Photo by FoodiesFeed.com

able to support skin clarity and high energy levels during summer chaos.

Try starting, interrupting, or ending the day with a vegetable-fruit smoothie. Smoothies can be a great source of protein by adding protein powder, spinach, or nuts. Depending on your needs and wants, a smoothie can be altered to provide for anyone's lifestyle. There are smoothies for muscle builders, chocoholics, and even avid avocado fans. Start by trying these five great recipes for mixing up delicious drinks that families are sure to enjoy! Check out the websites below each recipe for more ideas and complete step-by-step directions.

Protein Power: This recipe allows you to mix in any protein powder. Protein powders vary in flavor, so cautious smoothie makers may want to start with 1/2 scoop to play it safe. For people who have tried protein powder in the past but were disenchanted by the taste, adding it

to a smoothie can be the perfect way to fit it into your diet and mask the bad flavor.

1 cup strawberries, 1/2 cup pineapple, 1 banana, 2 cups orange juice, 1/2 cup Greek yogurt (berry flavor, vanilla, or honey), 1 cup spinach, 1 tablespoon chia or flaxseeds, 1 scoop vanilla protein powder, 4 ice cubes

View the complete recipe and five others online at <https://www.modernhoney.com/6-healthy-superfood-smoothies>

Morning Smoothie: This fresh smoothie is a great morning treat. It allows you the freedom to switch out fruits for flavors your family typically enjoys, or that happen to be on sale. If Greek yogurt is not a household staple, any other yogurt (as well as flavor) can work. Have some fun playing with fruity flavors.

1/2 cup coconut milk, 1/4 cup orange juice, 1 frozen banana, 1/2 cup frozen mango, 1/2 cup plain Greek yogurt, 2 teaspoons chopped walnuts

View this complete recipe online at <https://www.myrecipes.com/recipe/citrus-sunrise-smoothie>

Easy Green: If you haven't tried a green smoothie yet, this is the perfect recipe to start with: one vegetable and three bananas. Spinach is the green smoothie staple, and the fruit can be changed out for whatever you have available.

1 cup spinach, 1 cup water, 1/2 cup pineapple, 1/2 cup mango, 1 banana

View this recipe and other simple starters online at <https://simplegreensmoothies.com/recipes/beginners-lucky-green-smoothie>

Chocolate Protein: For chocolate lovers, pack in protein and get your sweets at the same time. If you have been interested in trying different milks, this recipe is a great way to give it a go!

1-2 cups ice, 1 banana sliced, 1 cup milk (cashew milk, almond milk, coconut milk, or any other), 1 scoop chocolate protein powder, 1 tablespoon unsweetened cocoa powder, 1-2 tablespoons peanut butter, a pinch of salt

View this complete recipe online at <https://www.theseasonedmom.com/chunky-monkey-protein-smoothie>

Add Avocado: Avocados are growing in popularity, and they can be added to smoothies! They add a great texture and another dose of green.

1/2 cup spinach, 1/4 avocado, 1/2 frozen banana, 1 tablespoon chia seeds, 1 cup milk of choice

View this complete recipe along with two other vegetable smoothie recipes online at <https://choosingchia.com/3-veggie-packed-smoothies-beginners>

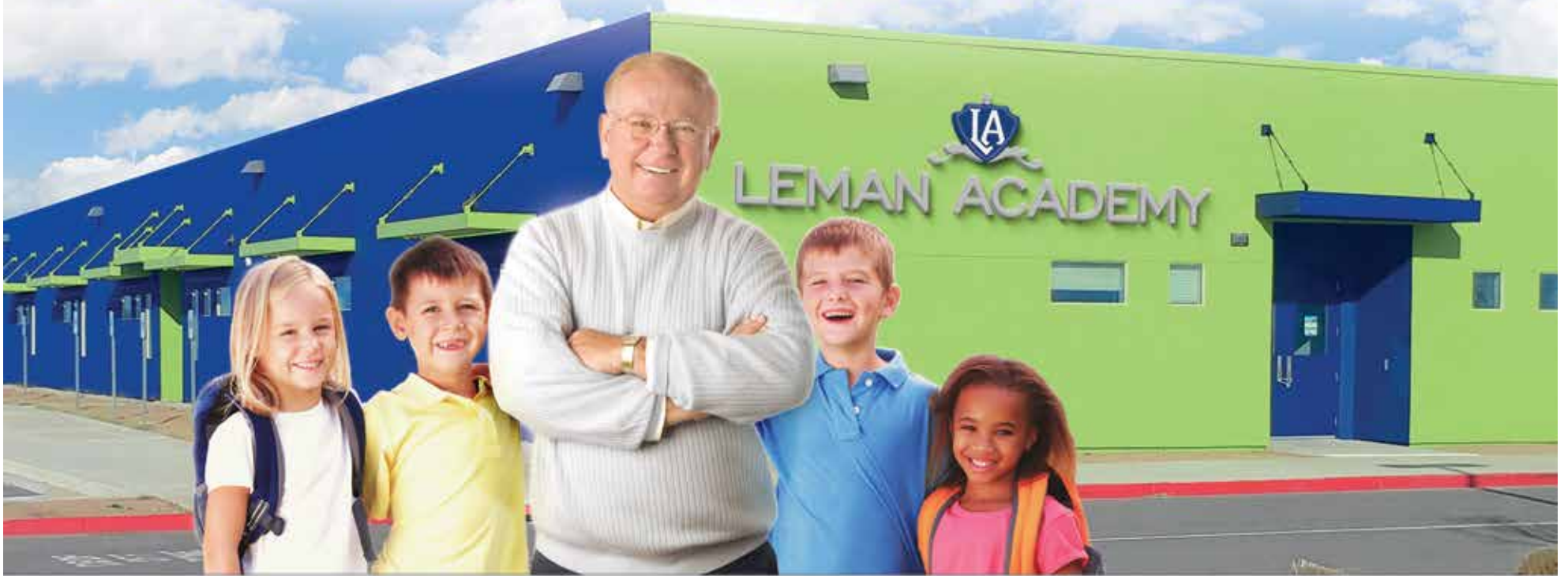
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Latter-day Adventures

The Cruise Lady Connects World Travel & Gospel-Centered History

By Allison Beckert

Vacations are on everyone's minds around summertime. When considering your next trip, The Cruise Lady: Latter-day Adventures has plenty to offer, especially for those looking to include gospel-centered experiences during their time away.

The Cruise Lady is the premier company for trips and destinations of interest to members of the Church. Some packages emphasize Book of Mormon topics and destinations in Central America. Others take travelers to the Mediterranean and the Holy Land, where a visit to the temple in Rome provides a highlight to the trip. Not all packages require sea voyage, and even the land tours feature knowledgeable speakers prepared to share insight and detail in scripture-centered lectures and discourse.

As of March, Diane Larson, founder of Cruise Lady, took on a new business partner. Steve Densley was named Chief Operating Officer and is as excited to be a part of a company that impressed him as a passenger first. Brother Densley left a 20-year career as



Photo by The Cruise Lady

Diane Larson and Steve Densley.

an attorney and is most excited about the opportunity "to help people learn more about world history and cultures, especially from a Latter-day Saint perspective," he says. Several changes are planned, including expansion to their available tours, but the level of service and emphasis on providing the best in gospel-centered experiences will continue.

For those who may have never considered travel with fellow Church members, the destinations alone are designed to fulfill lifelong dreams for many members, including locations



Mediterranean and Holy Land tours are available.

Image by Walkerssk from Pixabay

named in scripture as well as areas of the world that may open windows for family history work. Diane Larson, when asked about her inspiration for the packages, says, "We try to offer the most popular destinations that are on people's bucket lists where we can also add church historical sites or opportunities to visit temples around the world. Our [featured] scholars also give spiritual presentations while we are out to sea. Our clients really love that experience."

A cruise is a unique type of travel, and those who have tried it often return for more. Cruise Lady packages provide the best of cruising, especially for new travelers. Sister Larson says, "[Our passengers] like the idea of unpacking once, seeing several destinations, enjoying lots of choices for dining, and feeling safe with our groups. ... We have been leading cruises and tours for 22 years. We have the top, most popular 'headliners' to add to the journey, and a fun, experience, and knowledge-

able staff handling all the details so that their experience will be memorable and last a lifetime!"

If exotic destinations and exclusive instruction aren't tempting enough, international travel comes with benefits that are not as easily measured or described. International travel and exposure to different cultures and experiences have been noted to increase cultural sensitivity, empathy with others, and even personal creativity. Brother Densley shares that view, and says, "I love it when people are excited to see new places and learn new things about people all over the world and their history, traditions, and culture. I especially love to help people make connections between what they are experiencing abroad and their Latter-day Saint faith."

Visit their website, <http://www.cruiselady.com/>, for available packages, featured speakers, and pricing for your next travel experience. Take time to read their blog for travel tips and suggestions!

LOVE FOR THE GAME

From Soccer to Sharing Gospel Principles, Jeff Erickson Puts Passion Into Practice

By Cecily Markland Condie

Along with running a successful Texas-based dental practice, Dr. Jeffrey T. "Jeff" Erickson has put several of his favorite pastimes and passions into practice—and into presentations and print as well.

"I have a passion for writing and speaking about the gospel of Jesus Christ, especially to youth," Dr. Erickson says. He's put that passion to good use, serving as a Gospel Doctrine teacher for six years, participating as a speaker at Especially for Youth each year since 2001, and, when serving as a bishop, writing "more than 250 weekly letters of encouragement to missionaries all over the world."

Fifty-two of those letters were later compiled and published in the now popular book, *A Weekly Letter to Your Missionary*, available at Deseret Bookstore and online at Amazon.com. Dr. Erickson has also authored the "Greater View Series," 20 mini-books addressing gospel topics—or what Dr.

Erickson calls "aha principles" from the Book of Mormon—everything from contention, to pride, to gratitude, to dwindling in unbelief. The series titles include *The Fourth Nephite Effect*, *Waterproofing Your Vessel*, *The Virtue of the Word*, *Shake the Chains of Sin* and more.

Dr. Erickson says his favorites include *Because of Ease*. "I like some titles better because they are better for me personally," he explains. Others have value because they address a common problem or concern, Dr. Erickson says. "The one about pornography. I can see the value of it. Pornography is a huge problem and we are seeing only the tip of the iceberg."

He credits his mom for instilling in him a love for the gospel.

"I grew up in a part-member family," Dr. Erickson explains. "My mom was as faithful as can be," and he says he's grateful for "the gift of faith, the testimony of faith in the messages of



Photo Courtesy Jeffrey Erickson

Jeffrey Erickson (r), shown with his wife, Christine, and son, McKay, at senior soccer night at Gilbert's Highland High School, says his favorite pastime is doing anything that includes family.

the Book of Mormon." As a young man, Jeff served a full-time mission in the Canada Halifax Mission, where he learned to love the Book of Mormon even more and to understand that "the Book of Mormon has hundreds of principles that teach us and bless out lives currently."

He says an important aspect of those principles is learning to put them into practice and live them with real intent. Recognizing that his love for the game of soccer would always clash with the principle of keeping the Sabbath Day holy, he co-founded the NSFC (Never on Sunday Fútbol Club) Strikers. Now in its fourth year, the soccer club serves more than 550 young people, attracting

them from all across the East Valley and into Scottsdale, to participate in competitive soccer with a focus on skill development and fair play, while strictly observing their rule to never play on Sunday.

Members of the Lindsay Third Ward in the Chandler East Stake, Dr. Erickson and his wife, Christine, are the parents of six boys and a girl, three still living at home, one currently serving a mission.

To learn more about the NSFC Strikers, visit <https://www.nsfc.org/> or call 480-277-4351. For more information about books by Dr. Erickson, visit his author page by searching "Jeffrey Erickson" on Amazon.com.



By Robin Finlinson

F H E Corner

THE REALITY OF PERSONAL REVELATION

Teaching our children about the glorious reality of two-way communication with heaven is one of the greatest services we can do for them. How about discussing personal revelation in the setting of Family Home Evening?

Story:

In the 1970's when Sister Elisabeth Grosh of the Tempe Stake was seven years old, her family prepared to move from Arizona to her parents' native Germany and live with her grandfather for some time. Elisabeth was nervous about the upcoming move to a land she'd never even visited. One night in a pleasant dream, she saw a street swathed in sunlight. She noticed the well-kept houses that lined the street and a store situated on the bottom floor of one of them. The dream immediately

dispelled her angst, though she didn't yet know the significance of what she'd just seen. Once settled in Coburg, Germany, as she and an older sister walked toward their new school, the Pestalozzi Grundschule, Elisabeth recognized from her dream the first segment of

the 10-minute path. There, along the street called Eupenstrasse, were the houses she was shown—some built in the fachwerk style with exposed timber beams. And there was the bottom-floor store built of bricks. Though Elisabeth's family had not yet become practicing members of any religion, she recalled the peaceful feeling of her dream and knew she'd be okay.

Concepts/quotes to discuss:

- The Lord often reveals to His children that He knows exactly where we are now and where we'll be tomorrow. Even if no mortal knows your location, you can never be hidden from Heavenly Father or too far away for His help. Understanding that concept can bring relief to children—and adults.

- Revelation comes in various ways to all of God's children. He reveals more and more when we show sincere interest in His direction. Speaking of Jesus Christ, Elder Bednar said, "As we are yoked with Him through sacred covenants and receive the enabling power of His Atonement in our lives, we increasingly will seek to understand and live according to His will."

- Brigham Young said, "It was asked me by a gentleman how I guided the people by revelation. I teach them to live so that the Spirit of revelation may make plain to them their duty day by day that they are able to guide themselves."

Possible discussion questions:

- How does the Lord reveal things to you? (solutions that click into your mind, nudges to say or do something, feelings of peace...)
- How has Heavenly Father shown that He knows where you are or that you're on the right path for your life?

Suggestions:

- Find several ancient and modern scripture verses relating to this topic, such as Matthew 7:7-8 and Moroni 10:3-5.
- Ask friends of other faiths how God reveals things personally to them.



Photo courtesy of Elisabeth Grosh

The Grosh family in Germany, circa 1974. From l to r: Karl, Karen, Elisabeth, Birgit and Marlies.



Founded On Principles Of Frugality American Savings Life Insurance Company Honors Frihoff Grant Allen's 44 Years of Service

By Cindy R. Williams



Your Security Is Our Interest

American Savings Life Insurance Company, headquartered in Mesa, honored Frihoff Grant Allen for his 44 years of service in the company. Grant, as he was known, passed away in 2018 and the award was bestowed posthumously to his wife, Tiffany Allen.

American Savings Life Insurance Company opened its doors in 1954. Grant played an important part in the company by designing a computer program specifically for insurance that was ahead of its time. The computer system filled two entire rooms and Grant obtained several patents on his programs.

The company, created by the patriarch of the family, Frihoff Allen, began in Frihoff Allen's home. They then moved to a building in Mesa where they had two desks, one large table and a makeshift work table fashioned out of

plywood perched atop screw-on legs.

Byron Frihoff Allen, grandson of Frihoff Allen and current President/CEO of American Savings Life Insurance, says, "Okay, so maybe the space was less than ideal, but it was practical and allowed the employees there to work closely with one another, becoming a tight-knit team. Plus, it saved them some serious dough."

American Savings Life Insurance Company has remained in the Allen family and is now a three-generation company that serves twelve states from the entire West Coast to Texas.

"American Savings Life is able to profitably pay higher rates than the competition in large part due to our low overhead business model. ASL was founded on principles of frugality and conservatism which continue to be our



Photo Courtesy Cindy R. Williams

(l to r) Kurt Tingey, Tracy Allen, David Allen, Robert Allen, Tiffany Allen, Byron Allen, Steven Stapley, Heber Allen, Leroy Breinholt

guiding principles today," reads the ASL website.

"We have two parts to our business. American Savings Life Insurance Company sells insurance and annuities, but we also do commercial real estate loans," says Byron Allen. "We sell very competitive annuities with fixed interest rates up to 4.25%. Our youth life plan is a children's life insurance plan that only costs \$25 per year for a \$10,000 policy with 4.0% interest on additional funds without any withdrawal penalties and restrictions."

Byron Allen added, "We offer a guaranteed interest contract which currently pays 2.5% interest on funds deposited. There are no fees whatsoever as long as the funds stay in the account for one year or longer."

A new life insurance plan called

"Remembrance" will soon be offered. The program will make it "an easy and efficient way to maximize & transfer money to spouse, children or charities," says Allen.

Regarding commercial real estate loans, Byron Allen says, "Our trademarked 'Not So Hard Money™' loans fill a unique niche for commercial real estate owners who can't get a bank loan but want a better loan than a typical hard money loan. We are in between—easier to qualify than a bank loan and better loan terms and lower interest rates than typical hard money loans.

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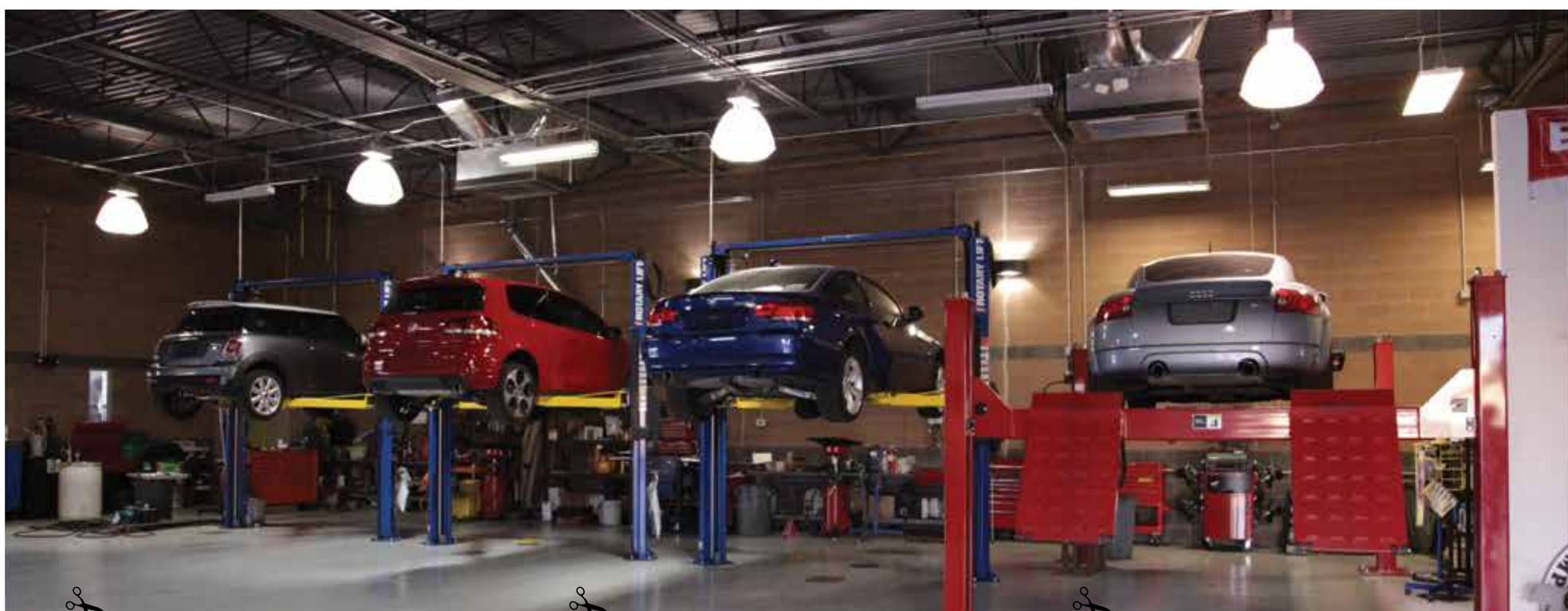
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Cannot be combined w/ any other offer.



JUSTSERVE

Maggie's Place

A Loving Home for Mothers & Babies in Need

By Hillary Jade Fevrier

Can you describe the emotion you feel when you see a homeless person? Sympathy? Sadness? Guilt? How would you feel seeing a homeless, pregnant woman? It was the indescribable feeling of sorrow and sympathy, imagining the hardships that those women must be facing, that inspired three young women to create Maggie's Place.

Maggie's Place is a set of homes all over the Valley (and one in Ohio) that hosts pregnant and parenting women who are down on their luck, providing lodging, food, educational courses, community resources and a lifelong feeling of fellowship, friendship and family. "Maggie's Place is not a bandage. It's a solution," says marketing director Linda Torkelson.

Since Maggie's Place opened in 2000, over 900 babies have been welcomed into Maggie's Place and countless lives have been bettered by the services offered. Women in need can live at Maggie's Place until their infants are 12 months old. In their time at Maggie's Place, the women are required to learn life skills and search for jobs. Resources are provided to women completely free of charge, thanks to the generosity of donors in the Phoenix community.

Entering the Michael House location, guests are greeted by a "Tree of Life." Names and dates of birth of babies who were welcomed to that house are engraved on metal leaves then mounted around a painted tree. In the kitchen, the moms each have a brief biography posted on the wall. Favorite books range from James Patterson novels to *Les Misérables*; career goals include interior designer and special agent in the FBI Behav-

ioral Analysis Unit.

The program offered at Maggie's Place rouses a feeling of compassion and a desire to help. It's little wonder that the entire operation functions off the generosity of donors. Parties inter-

help/volunteer/

Attend one of Maggie's Places' fundraisers. The biggest event is called *The Miracle of Motherhood*. This year, it takes place on September 27th in Scottsdale. All money raised goes directly to Maggie's Place patrons.

Because of Maggie's Place, and the unfathomable generosity of so many donors, fewer people will experience the feeling brought on by seeing a displaced mother-to-be. Maggie's Place has welcomed hundreds of women, asking only in return that they improve their situation and provide a better life for their children. With this attitude, and some help from the community, Maggie's Place has improved the lives of hundreds of women. Those women have taken what they learned at Maggie's Place and improved the world.

For more information on Maggie's Place, visit

<https://www.maggiesplace.org/>



The Miracle of Motherhood event is open to the public.

ested in contributing are encouraged to help in one of many ways:

Donate: Food, clothing, diapers, wipes, formula, bedding, money, etc., are always needed and appreciated. Just \$30 provides a night of housing for mother and baby. For more information, visit <https://www.maggiesplace.org/donate/>

Volunteer: Help at Maggie's Place by offering your time or special skills. If you would like to teach a special skill or help around the house with cooking, babysitting, gardening, etc., visit <https://www.maggiesplace.org/how-you-can->



Moms' and babies' lives have been changed for the better at Maggie's Place.

Courtesy of Linda Torkelson

VALLEY TEMPLE SCHEDULES

Temples Now Allow Cell Phones in Temple Office to Print Family Ordinance Requests

A new Church policy now allows patrons to use cell phones and other electronic devices in the temple office for printing Family Ordinance Requests and family name cards.

Otherwise, cell phones and other electronic devices should be turned off and placed in a locker while workers and patrons are in the temple.

This information was conveyed to stake and ward leaders in the notice "Temple Policy Adjustments," dated March 1, 2019.

Mesa Arizona Temple

101 S. LeSueur, Mesa, AZ, 852014
(480) 833-1211

2018 Temple Closures

Sunday, May 20, 2018 - Thursday, December 31, 2020

Gilbert Arizona Temple

3301 S. Greenfield Rd, Gilbert, AZ, 85297
(480) 822-5000

The Gilbert Arizona Temple grounds will now be open Sunday and Monday evenings from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. for individuals and families to experience the peace and holiness of the temple and to teach their children, grandchildren, and friends about the blessings of the temple. This opportunity will begin immediately and will be in addition to the availability of the temple grounds daily Tuesdays through Saturdays (except closures published on lds.org).

Services

Clothing rental now available, no cafeteria, no patron housing available

Distribution center: Inside nearby Deseret Book Store: 2894 S. San Tan Village Pkwy #103, Gilbert

Endowment Sessions

Tuesday - Saturday: Every 45 min from 5:30am - 7pm
Last daily session at 7:30pm

Spanish Sessions: Tuesday, 7:30pm; Saturday, 8:30am

ASL Session: 3rd Saturday of the month, 11:30am

2019 Temple Closures

Thursday, July 4

Monday, September 30 - Monday, October 14

Wednesday, November 27 - Thursday, November 28

Tuesday, December 24 - Wednesday, December 25

Tuesday, December 31

Phoenix Arizona Temple

5220 W. Pinnacle Peak Road, Phoenix, AZ 85310
(623) 474-9500

Services

No clothing rental, no cafeteria, no patron housing available. No distribution center nearby

Endowment Sessions

Tuesday & Thursday a.m.: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30

Tuesday & Thursday p.m.: 4:30, 6:00, 7:30

Wednesday a.m.: 6:00, 7:30, 9:00, 10:30

Wednesday p.m.: 4:30, 6:00, 7:30

Friday a.m.: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30

Friday p.m.: 12:00, 1:30, 3:00, 4:30, 6:00, 7:30

Saturday a.m.: 6:00, 7:30, 9:00, 10:30,

Saturday p.m.: 12:00, 1:30, 3:00, 4:30, 6:00

Spanish Sessions: Tuesday, 7:30pm; Saturday, 7:30am

ASL Session: 2nd Saturday of the month, 12:00 noon

2019 Temple Closures

Thursday, July 4

Saturday, October 5

Wednesday, November 27 (Limited Hours)

Thursday, November 28

Tuesday, December 24 - Wednesday, December 25

CONSIDERING SELLING IN 2019?



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HOME IS WORTH

FREE HOME VALUATION



WHAT OUR CLIENTS ARE SAYING...

"I HAD MY HOME FOR-SALE-BY-OWNER FOR OVER FOUR MONTHS WITHOUT AN OFFER. AFTER LISTING IT WITH THE GOULD GROUP WE SOLD IT IN JUST HOURS FOR MORE THAN WHAT I WAS ASKING. I KNOW THAT THEY'RE ONE OF THE TOP REALTORS IN THE EAST VALLEY BUT THEY MADE ME FEEL LIKE I WAS THEIR ONLY CLIENT. I NOT ONLY FOUND GREAT REALTORS, BUT GREAT FRIENDS AS WELL; THEY'RE FANTASTIC!" - ANN-MARIE PENDL



THE GOULD GROUP
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY EAST VALLEY

AWARD-WINNING
MOTHER &
DAUGHTER TEAM



PENNY GOULD
&
SHANNON VOWLES

(480) 600-3663

THEGOULDGROUP@COX.NET

THEGOULDGROUPAZ.COM



EACH OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED